

The Horry Herald.

"Be True to Your word and Your work and Your Country."

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FOOLING THE FARMER.

Roger Q. Mills's Caustic Comments on the McKinley Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The internal troubles the Republicans are having with their tariff bill result from the struggle over the division of the "pork." Many loud protests are made against the bill by those whose districts have suffered. This, however, must not encourage any one too much in the belief that the bill will fail of passage in the House. Mr. McKinley and his colleagues believe that they have conciliated interests enough to force the bill through, and if it were not for uncertainty about the Senate they would be very sanguine of its becoming a law. The opposition to the bill among the Republicans, while it is very general, arises in different instances from different causes, often conflicting, so that there is not much opportunity for combination. The quarrels are over the rates, and not the principles of the bill.

Many amendments will certainly be offered by the Republicans when the bill comes up in the House, but Mr. McKinley believes he can knock out the "squads" of opposition in detail, and then compel a practically united vote. With hides on the dutiable list, and sugars reduced as is proposed, there may be some men, however, whom Mr. McKinley will not find it easy to control.

The committee will meet the arguments of the men who want free sugar by the statement that the government cannot stand so much reduction of revenue; and those who want a higher duty on sugar will have their attention called to the fact that the duty proposed in the bill is above the average protective line. Mr. Bayne, who has been working on the bill with a great deal of energy, and feels much pride in its extreme protective character, says that the increased duty on wool and woolen goods will keep out at least half of the present importations, thereby cutting off about \$17,000,000 of revenue.

Mr. Mills says, in an interview on the bill, that it materially reduces no protective tax. "Every protective tariff," he says, "is left substantially as it was, or is raised to the point demanded by the beneficiaries. In many respects the bill is deceptive and demagogic, but in none more conspicuously and ridiculously than in its bid for the favor of the farmers. The sop thrown out to the agriculturalists is of the most flimsy sort. Except in one or two articles, like eggs, all the increased duties on agricultural products, which the farmer is to be asked to believe how much the Republican party loves him and how much it is trying to do for him, are increases on articles which are not imported and which therefore do not come into competition with American products. A few examples will suffice to show how the Republicans are trying to humbug the farmer into believing that he is to be made rich by the tariff. This bill increases the tax on wheat from 20 to 25 cents a bushel. Here is protection for the farmer, indeed. An increase of 25 per cent. on wheat sounds very cheering, but let us see what it amounts to in the light of the facts. During the last fiscal year the United States exported 48,000,000 bushels, worth \$41,000,000, and \$45,000,000 worth of flour or a total of \$91,000,000 worth of wheat and flour. In the same year the imports of wheat amounted to 6,000 bushels, about as much as a good-sized Western farm will produce. The tax on this importation of wheat was \$1,200, and by increasing the duty the government may be able to keep out 100 or 2,000 bushels of it in the future, and therefore protect the interests of the American agriculturalist.

"The Republicans raise the duty on corn from ten to fifteen cents a bushel, and on the strength of this the Republican orators will, no doubt go out to the Kansas and Nebraska prairies, where the farmers are burning their corn, and to Texas, where the farmers are in doubt whether their corn crop is worth pulling or not, and say to the people: 'It's too bad that corn is so cheap, but you can't blame us for that. Have we

not increased the duty 50 per cent? If that is not enough, we will increase it 100 per cent. at the next Congress. And then the corn-burning farmer will be expected to bless the name of the Republican party and fall down and worship it as before. The facts are, however, that while in the last fiscal year in the United States exported 69,000,000 bushels of corn, worth \$33,000,000, it imported just 2,338 bushels, worth \$1,212. Perhaps the increase of duty will reduce importation, but I don't think it will stop the burning of corn.

"So it is with most of the protection which the Republicans hold up to the farmer as an inducement to him to keep silent while the process of robbing him goes on. The McKinley bill increases the duty on corn meal from ten to twenty cents a bushel, and this will probably be held up to the farmer as a great boon to him. The importation of corn meal in the last fiscal year amounted to 396 bushels. McKinley tries to tickle the farmers by increasing the duty on oats from ten to fifteen cents a bushel. Our imports of oats in the last year amounted to 22,324 bushels, valued at \$10,178, while the exports were 624,000 bushels. Why the committee failed to put more protection on rye is a mystery to me. While it was in the business of protecting the farmers I do not see why it did not make a complete job of it. During the last fiscal year the United States imported sixteen bushels of rye, worth \$150 a bushel, and on this the government received a duty of \$1.60. Why not protect American agriculture by putting a duty on rye large enough to keep out those sixteen bushels?"

"The committee did better on bacon and hams. It increases the duty on these articles from two to five cents a pound, an increase so large that it will not be difficult for the Republican orators to convince the farmer that it is going to bring him better prices for his hogs. If the new duty should operate to keep out the 272,000 pounds of bacon and hams which we imported last year, see what a magnificent thing it would be for the American farmers, who are now able to produce and sell abroad only 400,000,000 pounds of bacon and hams in one year. On beef, mutton and pork, also, the Republicans do the best they can for the farmer. They increase the duty on these articles just 100 per cent., and surely the farmer must be grateful for such a benefactor. It is the ruinous competition of foreign beef and pork that is keeping the American farmers poor, as is shown by the imports of last year, which amounted to 200,000,000 pounds valued at \$13,000, while in the same period we were able to export only \$18,000,000 worth of beef alone.

"The McKinley bill gives the farmer protection on butter, increasing the duty from 4 to 6 cents a pound. How much good this is likely to do American agriculture may be judged by the importation of butter during the last fiscal year. It amounted to 91,000 pounds, valued at \$17,000.

"Mr. McKinley has sought to please the farmer by increasing the duties on cheese 50 per cent. Our importation of cheese is the last year was 8,000,000 pounds, against an exportation of 95,000,000 pounds. In other words, the proposed protection of agriculture is a fraud, a bit of hypocrisy intended for campaign use and as a cover for increase or maintenance of the tax on nearly all the articles which the farmer consumes."

METHODIST NEWS.

The General Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

The twelfth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will convene in the city of St. Louis, Mo., on the first Wednesday in May, 1890. It will be composed of an equal number of clerical and lay delegates representing thirty-eight annual conferences. These conferences are mainly in the southern and western States. The more remote western conferences are in Oregon, California, Colorado, and Montana. They embrace a large extent of ter-

ritory, and are in a formative state; and yet each of these conferences, however small in the number of preachers and membership is entitled to two delegates, one clerical and one lay delegate.

THE REPRESENTATION.

In the larger conferences there is one clerical and one lay delegate for every thirty-six members of the body. The Virginia Conference, for example, is composed of about two hundred and sixty members, clerical and lay and is entitled to fourteen delegates. The older conferences on the Atlantic Coast from Maryland and southward to Mexico, and in the middle region from Kentucky to Texas, taking in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, are all large bodies. There are five conferences in the State of Texas alone, most of which are numerically quite strong in preachers and church members. The conferences in Missouri as also in Arkansas are for the most part large bodies. There is one southern conference in the State of Illinois.

THREE HUNDRED DELEGATES.

From these several conferences, large and small, there are about three hundred delegates that will represent Southern Methodism in the great General Conference, which is at an early day to meet in Saint Louis. The bishops now eight in number, are not representative members in the General Conference. They nevertheless preside over the deliberations of the body and are invested with a *veto* power under given conditions. The clerical and lay delegates compose one body, and yet upon a call of one fifth of the members it is provided that "the lay and clerical members shall vote separately, and no measure shall be passed without the concurrence of a majority of both classes of representatives."

WHAT THEY WILL DO.

The approaching session of the General Conference will be replete with interest. It is the only legislative body of the Church. The legislation is limited by six "Restrictive Rules." These "rules" are organic and constitutional and nothing that contravenes them can become a law except on the recommendation of two-thirds of the General Conference, and the concurrence of three-fourths of the members of the annual conference. Outside of the limits imposed by the "Restrictive Rules" the General Conference has a wide latitude for legislation, and the indications in advance foreshow no small amount of attempts at least to make new laws and regulations touching a wide range of subjects. The body, however, always prove to be very conservative, and no radical measures of any kind are likely to be adopted.

ASKING LOCAL LEGISLATION.

Memorials will be sent up by all the annual conferences asking for legislation on subjects of a somewhat local character, but since the same laws and regulations apply to the whole southern church it is next to an impossibility to carry any measure that has a local or sectional bearing. For example, some of the older conferences are in favor of authorizing undergraduates, who are placed in pastoral charge to administer baptism and the Lord's Supper without the trial of two years for deacons orders as now prevails. The younger conferences, where the qualifications for admittance on trial are not so high, regard it as premature to invest undergraduates with this authority. This is given as an illustration of the point under notice.

BISHOPS TO BE ELECTED.

The General Conference elects the bishops. During the last quadrennium only one of the bishops have died, namely, Bishop H. N. McTyeira. Bishop Keener is now senior bishop. He is about seventy years of age, but is still active and doing full work. It admits of a doubt whether it will be deemed necessary to elect an additional bishop. The western conferences are anxious to have a resident bishop in California. This claim will no doubt be expressed by the western delegates. At most but one bishop will be elected there is no decided drift of opinion that points to the man. He, no doubt will be found if it is deemed advisable to elect an additional bishop.—*Wilmington Messenger.*

THE PAPERS AND THE PUBLIC.

An Important Libel Case on Trial in Columbia.

News and Co. rier.

COLUMBIA, April 8.—In the Court of Common Pleas this morning the case of Geo. B. Mosely and Anna B. Mosely vs. Chas. A. Calvo, Jr., came up for trial. It was a suit for \$20,000 damages for alleged criminal libel in March, 1887.

The plaintiffs were represented by Sanders & Sligh, of Chester, and Clark & Muller, of Columbia, and the defendant by Melton & Melton.

The following summary of the complaint and answer will indicate the details of the case. The proceeding gains interest from the fact that libel suits against newspapers are very rare in South Carolina:

THE COMPLAINT

alleged that Charles A. Calvo, Jr., the defendant, publisher of the Columbia Register, on the 2d day of March, 1887, * * * composed, wrote, circulated and mailed * * * the false, scandalous and defamatory libel of and concerning the plaintiffs in the words following, to wit:

"Some of Neely's friends, who still believe in his innocence, allege that several years ago, etc. (Here follows a scandalous story about Neely and Mr. and Mrs. Moseley not necessary to be repeated.) That * * * the defendant fully intended to do and was understood by the people to mean the plaintiffs, Geo. B. Mosely and Anna B. Mosely, * * * that by reason * * * of said false and defamatory libel these plaintiffs have been injured in their good name and fame personally and respectively to their damage twenty thousand dollars, wherefore the plaintiffs * * * demand judgement of the sum of \$20,000 and the cost of this action.

THE ANSWER

of the defendant, Charles A. Calvo, Jr., admitted the publication, but averred that it was a part of a series of communications written in the town of Chester, and mailed to the Columbia Register by a reliable and discreet person then employed as a regular correspondent; that the communication had reference solely to news and rumors then current in the town of Chester in regard to the prosecution of one J. H. Neely, a reputable citizen of the said county and a brother in law of the plaintiff, Anna B. Moseley, charged by the plaintiff, George B. Moseley, with having perpetrated an infamous crime; that the communications were published * * * in the usual course of the business of the said newspaper without criticism or comment, without averring anything as to their truth, * * * without intending maliciously or otherwise to injure or aggrieve the plaintiffs, * * * or to create discord between them as man and wife * * * as alleged in the complaint; and solely in the exercise of necessary and legitimate enterprise, fairly and in good faith, to conduct the ordinary business of a daily journal as the chronicle of news and the reporter of matters of public concern for the benefit and interest of the public."

The answer then gives in full with its headlines the Chester letter in which the cause of action occurs, showing that the statements of both sides were given without averments as to their truth. It is further stated that in the conduct and management of his extensive printing business the defendant, Charles A. Calvo, Jr., is compelled to devote wholly upon others as correspondents, reporters and editors, the collection, selection, preparation and insertion of the news matter published in the Columbia Register; that the persons so employed at that time were persons of "good judgement, prudence and discretion;" that while the defendant had the utmost confidence in their prudence and discretion, the said persons had been charged and enjoined by him to exercise every care and caution to avoid the publication of any matter which might unlawfully, unjustly or injuriously affect the reputation or the rights of others; that the publication complained of was made without the knowledge of the defendant, without malicious or other unlawful intent, inadvertently, and without the negli-

gence of the defendant or his agents.

It is further averred by the defendant that the publication was not intended to allege as true that he does not allege as true any matter affecting the good name of the plaintiffs, but on the contrary was a true statement of rumors current and common; that the alleged libels were uttered, not by the defendant, but by reputable and reliable persons described as "some of the friends of Neely," and defendant denied that by reason of the publication in such manner and with such qualifications and injury, damage or pecuniary loss has occurred to the plaintiffs personally or in reputation as alleged in the complaint; that ascertaining after the publication that the matters alleged by "some of the friends of Neely" were not true, he extended to the plaintiffs use of the columns of his paper for the publication of whatever matter they might deem adequate and sufficient to vindicate themselves, and that the plaintiff, Geo. B. Moseley, in behalf of himself and wife accepted the offer and forwarded, March 10 1887, a card denying the statements, which card was duly published in the Columbia Register. Wherefore the defendant prayed that he might be dismissed.

When this evidence was in Judge Melton, for the defendant, asked for a non-suit and made a strong argument, lasting for an hour and a half. He held that under the law as laid down in *Miller vs. Kerr*, 2d McCord, the inference of legal malice could not be drawn from a publication that "Neely's friends said so," etc. His second point involved the doctrine of newspaper privilege under the celebrated canon of Baron Park, arising from the moral and social duty of the press to publish matters of general concern and public interest, in which it was held that the legal inference of malice would not arise from the publication of a libel made in the discharge of such duty. Judge Wallace said that he could not grant the non-suit for the reason that under the decision in this State there were matters he was obliged to leave to the jury.

Evidence was then introduced for the defence. The witnesses were cross-examined by Mr. J. S. Muller, Col. Pope gave a lively address on journalistic ethics, and maintained that it was the plain duty of the Register, under the circumstances, to publish the item.

At Judge Melton's request the case was adjourned at 6.30 P. M. until to-morrow, to permit Conductor Land, the correspondent of the Register, who had sent the news complained of, to testify. The speeches will closely follow the evidence.

S. G. G.

CURED OF TILLMANIA.

The Frank and free Confession of the Greenville News.

Greenville News. Confession and penitence promote tranquility of mind, and therefore, we desire to own up frankly and freely on the Tillman question.

We hoped against hope until the last minute that our first opinion of Capt. Tillman was right. We thought him a somewhat extreme and violent man, but believed that he was entirely conscientious, and was induced to make rash statements and take positions he could not hold by honest zeal for the good of his State and the rightings of wrongs. When he declared at the beginning of his career that he was a candidate for no office, but trustee of an agricultural college and desired no other, we swallowed it whole and believed it implicitly. We have resented and repelled the charges of opposition newspapers that Tillman was working chiefly for Tillman's advancement. We believed that we had at last found a patriot who was giving his time, breath and labor for pure love of his State and his class.

The dream is over; the idol is shattered. Capt. Tillman stands forth as a candidate for Governor at the head of the movement he has done so much during the last five years to give shape to. The Farmers' Movement, for the farmers, of the farmers and by the farmers, has been twisted into a Tillman movement for Tillman, of Tillman and

by Tillman. What we thought was patriotism we find to be politics. We can only ask the Columbia Register and other esteemed contemporaries who have all along treated Capt. Tillman as a candidate in training for a race for the Governorship to pass along our dish of crow as gently as possible in the circumstances, and will then unite with a vast number of honest and confiding people in the doleful chorus, "sold again!"

We are sorry to lose the disinterested and sturdy patriot in whom we have believed all these years, but we are not sorry for our part in it. We would rather think too well of ninety-nine men than to fail to give one credit that he deserves. We prefer to err on the side of charity and confidence in human nature. We are glad that to the very last we demanded fair play for Capt. Tillman, and that he should not be judged in advance of his acts. Now that he has by his own act confirmed the charges his enemies have made against him the responsibility is on him.

Nor do we charge him with any crime. If he wanted to be Governor he had the right to work for that end, and to secure all the backing he could. It is now for the Democrats of the State to say whether they approve his methods and his candidacy. He has put himself before them for judgement.

The outlook for him is not very good. He has resigned his claim to be a disinterested patriot, working solely for the good of his fellow-farmers, and he has not established a standing as a brilliant or successful politician. He was practically beaten in his own game with all the cards in his hand.

The Convention of the 27th was called by Capt. Shell, who is Capt. Tillman's warm friend and devoted advocate. It was called as a Convention of all who were in sympathy with the Farmers' Movement to make nominations. The farmers and those who were in sympathy with them met at their county seats, and by their actions proved that they opposed the making of nominations.

The first vote on the question in the Convention was a defeat for the nomination plan. There was a majority of one against nominations, including the vote of Mr. Farley, of Laurens, as a part of the Spartanburg delegation, which was withdrawn when a protest was made against it. Excluding that vote, the motions for nominations was defeated by a majority of two.

Among the votes for nominations were those of the four delegates from Pickens, who were elected by a farmer's mass meeting, which adopted resolutions against nominations. The four men who went to Columbia voted for nominations, but their votes did not rub out the fact that the farmers of their county opposed such action.

To make the majority of one there was also included nine votes from the city of Charleston. Those votes were cast by delegates elected two nights before the Convention by a meeting called at a day's notice.

How the farmers of Spartanburg County feel cannot be known because all who opposed nominations were ruled out of the county meeting by Senator R. M. Smith, a ruling which was reversed by the Convention when it admitted the Barnwell and Sumter delegations instructed against nominations.

Any fair minded man considering these facts must conclude that the farmers and their sympathizers virtually declared against nominations in March.

If the Convention had been the regular Democratic State Convention and the result had been secured by the votes of delegates in opposition to the expressed wishes of those who sent them and of other delegates hastily chosen in Charleston at short notice there would have been a howl and a kick from one end of the State to the other. If when the farmers come to consider the matter and investigate the facts they do not kick energetically against the action of this convention and the attempt to commit them with or without their consent to Capt. Tillman's candidacy we will be much surprised.

A man is known by the company he keeps, and by the company he keeps away from.

A TIMELY WARNING

Which Should be Calmly Considered and Fully Heeded.

Mr. E. M. Brayton, as chairman of the Republican State committee, has gone to work early to prepare to take advantage of whatever dissensions and divisions may be developed in the Democratic party during the proaching campaign or at the next election. In the dispatches from Columbia that were published yesterday it is stated that he went before a United States commissioner on Monday and applied for a warrant against Supervisor Meighan, charging him with failure and refusal to open his office on that day for the registration of voters, and that the commissioner had been instructed by the United States district attorney to issue the warrant at once.

What the result of the proceedings will be cannot be foretold, as there is a question as to the requirements of the State law in regard to the times of opening the books of registration, and Supervisor Meighan claims that he has been guided by legal advice in the course he has taken; and even if he have failed to comply with the letter of the State law it is doubtful whether his mere failure to act constitutes such a positive offence as is contemplated by the terms of the Revised Statutes of the United States. These points however, will probably be settled, or put in the way of settlement, by the proceedings which have been instituted at Chairman Brayton's instance, and the Supervisor will have the benefit of the best legal counsel in the State in maintaining his position.

The interesting feature of the proceedings, to the white people of South Carolina, is the evidence which has been given that the chairman and head of the Republican party in the State is preparing in time to organize his forces so as to profit by the threatened division in the Democratic ranks. The ground of his action against the Supervisor is that "colored voters," Republican voters, of course, went to Columbia on Monday to register, and were prevented from doing so. It is not usual for these voters to manifest so lively an interest in registration three months in advance of the day when the registration book are finally closed. The fact, if it be a fact, that the colored Republicans are already moving to qualify themselves to vote at the approaching election in November, eight months distant shows plainly that their leaders are fully awake to the opportunity which the so called Farmers' Movement may give to them, and are quietly but actively arraying their forces for another struggle for control of the State, under the advantageous circumstances of local Democratic divisions and of a Republican Administration at Washington which will sustain them in every effort they shall make.

The farmers of the State, and the white voters generally, will do well, to consider the timely object lesson which has been exhibited to them at Columbia this week, and to regulate their own conduct accordingly. This is not a good year for Democrats in South Carolina to divide on petty or personal issues. It is a good year for them to register their full strength and to stand together, and work together, and any other course is likely to be attended with consequences which we shall have abundant cause to regret hereafter.—*News and Courier.*

Railroad Subscription in Chester.

CHESTER, April 9.—The election yesterday in this County on the question of subscription or no subscription of \$100,000 to the capital stock of the Atlantic, Asheville and Knoxville Railway Company resulted in favor of subscription. The election was a quiet one, and the vote is regarded as a full one for this busy season. The official returns from the various precincts were canvassed by the County Commissioners to-day 12 M., and the following is the result: Subscription, 1,352; no subscription, 782; majority for subscription, 570.—*Columbia Register.*